AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Delete lines 8-9 on page 7 in their entirety.

~~FIG. 27 is a diagram showing an example of communications using the communication device in the embodiment;~~

Rewrite the paragraph on page 9, lines 10-14 as follows:

FIG. 1 is a diagram ~~sowing~~ showing construction of the inputted packet processor 1 shown in FIG. 26. Referring to FIG. 1, the inputted packet processor 1 comprises a static routing table 2, a dynamic routing table 3 and a judgement processing unit (corresponding to a judging unit) 4.

Rewrite the paragraph on page 16, lines 13-19 as follows:

In this case, the router R2 discovers the failure in the link #b, and, when receiving the packet 6 from the router R1, judges that the failure occur in the link #b corresponding to the static route. Then, the router R2 forwards the packet 6 to the router R5 via the link [[#b]] #c in accordance with the next hop information corresponding to the host Y, which is stored in the dynamic routing table 3 (see FIG. 27).

Please rewrite the paragraphs on page 21 starting from line 1 and ending at line 21 as follows:

The judgement processing unit 16 receives pieces of next hop information from the dynamic routing table 15 and the static routing table 14 as well. At this time, the judgement processing unit 16, if failure information about the link A is not received, supplies a switch [[17]] 5 with the next hop information corresponding to the virtual circuit number 18b.

Then, the switch [[17]] 5 forwards the inputted packet 18 to the link A in accordance with the next hop information received from the judgement processing unit 16. The packet 18 is thereby transmitted on the virtual circuit down to a communication device (host) as the end point.

By contrast, the judgement processing unit 16, if the failure information about the link A is received when receiving the next hop information from the routing tables 14 and 15, inputs the next hop information corresponding to the destination address 18a to the ~~witch 17~~ switch 5. The switch 17 forwards the inputted packet 18 to the link B in accordance with the next hop information received from the judgement processing unit 16.

Thus, the inputted packet processor 13, if no failure ~~occur~~ occurs in the link A, reflects the policy in the network by forwarding the packet 18 by use of the virtual circuit.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 21, line 22 and ending at page 22, line 1 as follows:

Whereas if the failure occur in the link A, the inputted packet processor 13 detects the next hop information based on dynamic routing in accordance with the destination address ~~18b~~ 18a in the packet 18, and forwards the packet 18 to the link (B) corresponding to the detected information. With this operation, as in the first embodiment, even if the failure ~~occur~~ occurs in the link A, the reachability of the packet 18 can be secured.

Rewrite at page 23 the paragraphs starting at line 10 and ending at line 24 as follows:

The judgement processing unit 22 receives pieces of next hop information from the dynamic routing table 21 and the static routing table 20 as well. If the failure information about the link A is not received, the judgement processing unit 22 supplies a switch [[23]] 5 with the

next hop information corresponding to the label 24a.

Then, the switch [[23]] 5 forwards the inputted packet 24 to the link A in accordance with the next hop information received from the judgement processing unit 22. By contrast, the judgement processing unit 22, if the failure information about the link A is received, inputs the next hop information corresponding to the destination address 24c to the ~~witch 23~~ switch 5. The switch [[23]] 5 forwards the inputted packet 24 to the link B in accordance with the next hop information received from the judgement processing unit 22.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 27, line 25 and ending at page 28, line 7 as follows:

The communication device including an inputted packet processor 25A having the same construction as the inputted packet processor 25 receives the packet 32 having the special value via the link B, in which case, even if the failure does not occur in a link (e.g., link A1) selected by the static routing table of this inputted packet processor 25A, the judgement processing unit 28 supplies the switch 5 with the next hop information outputted from the dynamic routing table 27. The packet 32 is thereby forwarded from the switch [[31]] 5 to the link (e.g., link B1) selected by dynamic routing.

Rewrite the paragraph on page 39, lines 10-16 as follows:

FIG. 18 is a diagram showing construction of an inputted packet processor 78 provided in the communication device in the fourteenth embodiment. The inputted packet processor 78 receives an IP packet [[9]] 79 containing the IPv6 header 52a as a substitute for the IPv4 header 45a, and executes routing. The inputted packet processor 78 differs in this point from the inputted packet processor 71 in the thirteenth embodiment.

Rewrite the paragraph on page 46, lines 3-6 as follows:

Referring to FIG. 24, the inputted packet processor 109 includes a plurality (n-pieces) of static routing tables 110a ~ ~~11n~~ 110n (110a, 110b, 110c, ..., 110n), a dynamic routing table 111 and a judgement processing unit 112.

Rewrite the paragraph starting at page 47, line 19 and ending at page 48, line 3 as follows:

The judgement processing unit 112, based on the priority given to the pieces of next hop information when selected, selects one piece of next hop information among the plural pieces of next hop information inputted, and inputs the selected next hop information to the switch 5. In this example, the judgement processing unit 112 selects the next hop information given the top priority out of the static routing table 110a. Thereafter, the judgement processing unit 112 selects the next hop information in sequence of the static routing table 110b (unillustrated), the static routing table 110c (unillustrated), ..., 110n, and finally selects the next hop information from the dynamic routing table ~~112~~ 111.

Rewrite the paragraph on page 48, lines 13-18 as follows:

The judgement processing unit 112, if receiving the failure information about all the links corresponding to the next hop information received from the static routing tables 110a - 110n, selects the next hop information (link B) received from the dynamic routing table 111, and supplies this piece of next hop information to a switch ~~113~~ 5.

Rewrite the paragraph on page 50, starting from line 18 and ending at line 26 as follows:

While on the other hand, the marking process unit 120, for the duration of the receipt of the failure information, executes marking with respect to the inputted packet 121 by padding a

predetermined mark into a header or user field. Thereafter, the marking process unit 120 inputs the packet 121 to the switch 5. The predetermined mark is, e.g., predetermined bits or a bit string. The packet 121 forwarded from the switch ~~119~~ 5 to the route (link B) based on dynamic routing is thereby brought into a state of its having been subjected to marking.